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Says before leaving Australia

Hussein : Jerusalem should be peace city

Amman, March 9, (R). — H.M. King Hussein said today that if he were persuaded to go to Jerusalem, he did not see any reason why the city should be divided as a result of the 1948-49 war. He said that Jerusalem should be a city of peace for all its inhabitants.

Israel C.P. head says PLO talks of mutual recognition

TEL AVIV, March 9, (R). — The head of the Israeli Communist Party said today he was told by a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader that the group was ready to recognise Israel on a mutual basis. Mr. Meir Vilner, who is Secretary General of the Rakah Party and a Knesset (parliament) member, said upon his return from Moscow, where he attended the 25th Communist Party Congress, that he had talks with Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi, director of the PLO political Department, who also attended the conference.

Arafat accuses CIA of aiding rightists in Lebanon

Amman, March 9, (AFP). — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat tonight accused the American CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) of aiding rightist forces in the recent Lebanese civil war.

During nearly ten months of fighting, the CIA supplied arms and money to Lebanese "isolationist" forces, while the U.S. Sixth Fleet kept close to the Lebanese coast, he told a mass rally here attended by an estimated 20,000 people.

The CIA and the Sixth Fleet should know that they could not hinder the Palestinian revolution, Mr. Arafat added.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived here from Saudi Arabia last night, said Lebanese "isolationist" forces recently received their fifth arms shipment, of 39,000 missiles. But he did not indicate the source.

Mr. Arafat also accused the former Lebanese army Commander-in-Chief, General Iskander Hanein, of being one of those behind the "conspiracy," and of transferring weapons

operation and for establishing joint agricultural and industrial projects.

It was agreed to follow up the King's visit with meetings of officials to define areas of such cooperation, and the Australian side has suggested inviting high-level Jordanian officials to draw up exchange and cooperation programmes.

The Australian government has expressed its readiness to examine proposals for Australian technical cooperation in the fields of irrigation, dry cultivation, agricultural processing, technical education and use of solar energy.

The two countries will continue discussions about opening air services between them and will encourage the flow of two-way tourists.

On the political front, both sides stressed the dire need to implement U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 and that any Middle East peace solution would have to take into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the right of all states in the area to live with security and recognised borders.

King Hussein extended an invitation to Australian Governor-General Sir John Kerr and his wife to visit Jordan in May.



HOPEFUL SMILE. — U.S. Democratic Party presidential hopeful Jimmy Carter smiles wide as he holds a five-month-old baby during a visit to Miami, Florida, Monday. (AP wirephoto).

Florida holds crucial primary

MIAMI, Florida, March 9, (Agencies). — Florida voters went to the polls today to express their preferences for Democratic and Republican Party presidential candidates in contests where several aspirants' hopes hang in the balance.

In the Republican camp, Ronald Reagan must come up with a victory over President Ford or be virtually given no serious hope to win the Republican presidential nomination.

For the Democrats, the major contenders in Florida are Alabama Governor George Wallace, Washington State Senator Henry Jackson and former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter.

Mr. Wallace needs a victory in his home territory of the south to project himself as a serious candidate for the presidency, while both Carter and Jackson would like to add a Florida victory onto previous primary wins, Jackson in Massachusetts and Carter in New Hampshire.

The war was not over yet, though the PLO was keen to maintain the ceasefire, Mr. Arafat said.

The president, who is due here on March 29 on his first state visit to Germany, said the situation in the Middle East had reached a turning point and offered an "historical chance" to reach a genuine peace.

Not only the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France should be guarantors of a peace, as proposed by Soviet party leader Leonid Brezhnev recently, but also West Germany and other friendly European states, Mr. Sadat said.

"I insist that our friends in Western Europe play their role, especially as far as guarantees for a final peace settlement are concerned," he told the Sued-Westfunk radio in Baden-Baden.

Students stone Israeli police as Nablus protests continue

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank, March 9, (AFP). — Students and high school children again stoned Israeli patrols in the town of Nablus today, in a third day of tension following an Israeli assault on a high school on Sunday.

Israeli military authorities had last night released 10 Arab pupils arrested in the Sunday incident, dropping charges against them of disturbing the peace. But the town was still paralysed by protest strikes today.

The authorities, in a "gesture" after some of the most serious clashes between military forces and West Bank residents announced that charges against the detainees of disturbing the peace would be dropped.

Traders and local government employees began a strike yesterday in protest over the Israeli troops "entry into Kadri Tougan school to break up a demonstration. The entire town council resigned as a result and it was supported by trade unions, women's organisations and the Chamber of Commerce.

High school pupils clashed with Israeli patrols again yesterday as the wave of resistance spread. The teenagers built

Zionists fire-bomb Syrian Embassy in Paris

PARIS, March 9 (R). — The Syrian Embassy here said today that a fire bomb attack against the embassy last night was aimed at sabotaging President Hafez Assad's forthcoming official visit, due to start on March 15.

In Damascus, a government statement said Zionist elements threw several Molotov cocktails at the Syrian Embassy causing damage to its facade but no casualties.

"The attack was in implementation of a plan indicating Zionism's resentment against Syria," it added.

The statement continued, saying that a Syrian information (Continued on page 6)

Parliament renews mandate for 2 years

Army mutineers control Rashaya in S. Lebanon

BEIRUT, March 9, (Agencies). — Army mutineers have taken over a southern Lebanese hill town as well as an army artillery position near the Israeli border, parliament was told today.

Premier Rashid Karami told deputies the moves "show that there are some who still imagine they can take over the government and the country through such tactics."

Deputies' questions uncovered the first news that rebels had taken over Rashaya, small garrison town on the western slopes of Mount Hermon.

A young sergeant yesterday led a mutiny at the artillery position at Arnoun, only six kilometres from the border with Israel.

President Suleiman Franjeh is reported to have said the Arnoun incident possibly gives Israel a pretext to move into southern Lebanon.

Rashaya lies near one of the main Palestinian commando supply routes across the frontier between Syria and Lebanon. Mount Hermon commands the junction of the Israeli, Lebanese and Syrian borders.

The artillery post at Arnoun, within easy range of Israel, was occupied by supporters of Lieutenant Ahmed Al-Khatib, who set up a "rebel army" in January.

The deserters' actions must create a dangerously unstable situation in a strategically sensitive area.

Observers said the moves will inevitably worry neighbouring Syria, which played a crucial role in arranging the January 22 ceasefire in the civil war and is anxious for a durable peace.

Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel-Halim Khaddam and air force commander, General Najib Jamil arrived from Damascus today and immediately called on President Franjeh.

They also met Brigadier Musa Kanaan deputy army chief of staff, and Colonel Jules Bus-tani, head of army intelligence.

According to press reports President Franjeh discussed the mutiny by telephone last night (Continued on page 6)

Boycotts, military clashes maintain Sahara tension

UNITED NATIONS, March 9, (R). — Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim is in daily contact with Swedish Ambassador Olof Rydbeck, his special representative on the Western Sahara question, but there is no immediate plan for Mr. Rydbeck's return to the area, a spokesman said today.

The spokesman was commenting on a Paris newspaper report that Mr. Rydbeck would visit Madrid, Algiers, the Sahara, Rabat and Nouakchott, beginning early this week.

In Rabat yesterday, the opposition daily "L'Opinion" stated that Algeria is operating an economic boycott against Morocco.

In a front-page article the paper said that Algerian Minister of Commerce Alayachi Yaker told the Moroccan Ambassador in Algiers late in 1974 that Algeria refused to trade with Morocco, preferring to pay exorbitant prices for potatoes and tomatoes from Holland rather than import them from Morocco.

Algeria also refused to supply crude oil to Morocco at the price set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), demanding that the 1973 price increase be backdated ten years.

Morocco has been obliged to get alternative supplies from Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the Soviet Union.

Algeria had also refused to service Moroccan civil aircraft so that the Moroccan airline with Swedish Ambassador Olof Rydbeck, his special representative on the Western Sahara question, but there is no immediate plan for Mr. Rydbeck's return to the area, a spokesman said today.

In the Western Sahara, guerrillas clashed with Mauritanians (Continued on page 6)

Dow Jones index breaks through 1,000 barrier

NEW YORK, March 9, (AFP). — The Dow Jones Index, Wall Street's "barometer," broke through the 1,000-point barrier today for the first time since January 1973.

Three quarters of an hour after the opening of business, the index registered 1,000.32, 11 points more than the previous day.

The breakthrough had been expected for several weeks in trade quarters, as the New York Stock Exchange had been remarkably firm since the beginning of the year because of the rate of inflation.

Fears of a tighter-money policy in the Federal Reserve put a brake on the trend last week but the upswing was resumed smartly yesterday.

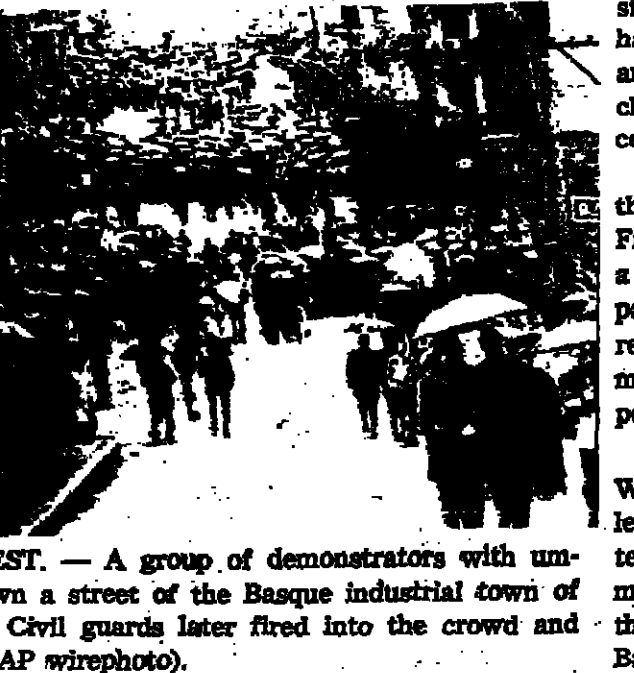
The Dow Jones stood at 577.60 in December 1974, its lowest level for 12 years. It began this year on the 852.41 mark.

in ends its still

North Eastern Italy, March 9, (AFP) — People were killed and several injured when a cable-car plunged 50 metres near here today. Linking the 1,200 metre high Mt. with the small Alto Adige town of near the Austrian border, crashed due to failure just before reaching the Ca- sation, police said.

al unrest in Spain — March 9, (R). — 1,000 workers, meeting in a swimming pool of town of Basauri, took part in an indefinite strike in protest against the killing by police of a worker yesterday. The strike, highly industrial completely shot down. The workers packed round the swimming pool to demand the go back until the strike is lifted. The surrounding the civil war, the police helicopter circled. The Basque industry returned to work after thousands of days of strikes in protest last week's shooting (Continued on page 6)

PROTEST. — A group of demonstrators with umbrellas down a street of the Basque industrial town of Monday. Civil guards later fired into the crowd and man. (AP wirephoto).



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Family squabble

The escalating exchange of accusations between Syria and Egypt, as evidenced by Monday's tough speech by President Assad, must be viewed within the context of geography and intent. It is wrong for the observer to conclude that heated exchanges by Presidents Assad and Sadat portend inter-Arab discord of the kind and gravity that Israel likes to foment and the international news media like to dramatise.

It is more realistic to view the current war of words between Syria and Egypt as a family quarrel about tactics, and not as an entrenched clan war over deep differences. The basic argument that has led to the past month's vitriol between Syria and Egypt is over Egypt's signing of the September 1975 Sinai disengagement agreement with Israel. This has effectively put Egypt temporarily out of the Middle East war-peace picture, something that Egypt planned in order to gain breathing space to tackle its domestic economic problems.

At the same time, Syria and Jordan last year started making concrete progress on their phased movement towards integration. This has upset the Egyptians, particularly when they saw that both Syria and Jordan have been building deep political and economic ties with the Arab oil producers. The emergence in this part of the Middle East of a political-military-economic force spearheaded by Syria and Jordan, backed by the political, economic and military clout of the Arab Gulf states and aimed at forcing Israel's hand to come to terms on a settlement of the Palestinian dilemma in Palestine is something that makes Egypt a bit edgy.

But being edgy does not mean totally losing one's reasoned determination to make Israel face up to the realities of peacemaking in the Middle East. Syria and Jordan and other Arabs are irritated by Egypt's Sinai agreement because this has sidelined the key geographic factor of Egypt in the confrontation with Israel, particularly at a time when Israel is showing its internal weaknesses and national contradictions.

President Sadat for his part maintains that his secret agreements with the United States will bear fruit in the near future, as the U.S. has committed itself to bringing the Palestinians into the Middle East peace picture, an altogether welcomed display of American enlightenment if it is true and imminent.

The Syrians and the Egyptians are now moving on different sideroads on their path to the same objective. It is not very surprising if one thinks the other has taken the wrong road when in reality what each country may be doing is simply taking a short detour, only to meet up again at the final destination.

Time, that subtle sanctifier of all things, will prove that family squabbles are to be viewed with due attention, but not with rabid, wild worry about magnified but essentially manageable differences.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

In its commentary Tuesday, Al Ra'i said that Jordan, is, of course, in need of development and the promotion of its own capabilities among countries searching for markets and mutual industrial cooperation. But, Jordan is, first of all, an integral part of the Arab nation; it develops in the shadow of peace based on justice, and grows with the growth of the Arab nation.

"This concept," continued the paper, "was conveyed by King Hussein in his farewell speech on the eve of his departure from his Australian visit, despite the fact that King Hussein's mission there, was primarily to draw a bright, promising picture of our economic reality and aspirations, and to invite technology and investment to participate in the promotion of Jordan's reality and outlook."

The King, said the paper, made it clear that the Israeli aggression of 1967 had halted the motion of the first seven-year development plan. And, despite the momentum of our five-year plan, and our industrial, agricultural and metallurgical accomplishments, we are bound to face the same shock if another war breaks out, because it is our destiny to confront aggression and to fight for the realisation of the rights of the Palestinian people, their freedom and self-determination.

Commenting on President Assad's speech commemorating the March 8, revolution, Ad Dustour said that in his review of the situation in the area, it

was natural that the Syrian head of state should touch on Syrian-Egyptian relations. His speech, which was characterised by objectivity, implied that the initiation of dialogue between Damascus and Cairo was not impossible... On the other hand, continued the paper, it is the right of Syria to elicit appreciation from every Arab for its heroic sacrifices, and honourable steadfastness, not to mention its military strength deployed over the battle front.

In its comment, Al Ahram of Cairo indicated that President Sadat was preparing to visit four European countries—Federal Germany, France, Italy and Yugoslavia, after his "successful" visit to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. The paper noted that Egypt's relations with these European capitals have been strengthened and will be further cemented with President Sadat's impending visit.

"Bonn," said Al Ahram, "is sparing no effort to participate in some important projects that will help Egypt overcome its economic difficulties due to successive wars. Also Italy is very much interested in the re-opening of the Suez Canal for boosting its trade through the waterway." The Egyptian daily considers that, in its efforts to establish peace in the area, based on justice and stability, Egypt is winning appreciation and admiration of all European leaders. They, therefore, would seize every opportunity to translate these sentiments into actual contributions, the paper concluded.

Mailboxes distributed throughout Amman

AMMAN. — 41 new mailboxes were placed in the various streets of Amman Tuesday, thus completing the second stage of the project adopted by the Ministry of Communication which comprises installing mailboxes throughout all Amman.

The collection of letters from the mailboxes will be done twice a day, said the Minister of Communication, Mr. M. A. Zabin, the first time at 9 a.m. the second time at 3 p.m., except on Fridays and official holidays, when they will be collected only once a day at 3 p.m.

The first stage of the project was implemented on November 12 and effected the installation of the first 35 mailboxes.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Education, Mr. Zouqan Hindawi, received Tuesday the Housing Bank Director General Mr. Zuhair Khoury, and discussed with him the Teachers Housing Project.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hassan Ibrahim, received Tuesday morning the Greek ambassador in Amman and the U.N. resident representative to Jordan.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mr. Ghaleb Barakat, received, Tuesday, the French and West German ambassadors to Jordan.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Education Mr. Zouqan Hindawi, received, Tuesday, the Syrian ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Sabbagh, and discussed with him the unification of curricula between the two countries.

● AMMAN. — The Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Bahjat Talhouni, received, Tuesday, the Acting Prime Minister Sobhi Amin Amr and the Egyptian Charge d'Affaires in Amman.

Maritime Corporation buys floating crane

AMMAN. — The Maritime Corporation will purchase a floating crane of 130 tons capacity to offload heavy parcels and equipment at Aqaba sea port. This crane will speed work at the port, and the Corporation is also building a maintenance workshop for boats to cost JD 50,000.



VALLEY VOTERS. — Farmers of the Jordan Valley Tuesday voted to elect representatives to the Jordan Valley Farmers Federation. Photo shows a centre where one of the 3,400 voting farmers casts his ballot in the first ever such vote in the valley.

JD 14 m allocated for Hassa, Aqaba railroad

AMMAN. — Implementation of a JD 14 million project which aims to increase the transport capacity of the railroad between Al Hassa and Aqaba has started, sources at the Railroad Corporation said here Tuesday.

The aim of this project which consists of purchasing new wagons, erecting new stations along the railroad and developing its communication system is to enable the Railroad Corporation to transport 4.5 million tons of phosphates instead of the present 1.6 million tons. This capacity will be increased to 6.5 million at the end of 1977.

RSS, U of J to work on Aqaba solar energy plant

AMMAN. — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Engineering Department at the University of Jordan have started work on the plans of the Aqaba Solar Energy plant.

The plant will use solar energy for the desalinisation of sea water.

The project is to be implemented in cooperation with the West German Ministry of Commerce and will use approximately an area of 400 square metres at its experimental stage. If the project proves to be successful it will be enlarged and various plants will be established.



NEW DISCOVERIES. — Photo shows some of the latest pottery finds from the 1976 Jordan Valley Survey of archaeological sites. The vessel on the far right dates from the Islamic period (about 1200 AD) while the other four date from the Late Bronze Age (about 1300 BC).

Project Office Accountant

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE ABOVE POSITION IN OUR AMMAN PROJECT OFFICE. APPLICANTS SHOULD BE FLUENT IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC AND HAVE PROVEN EXPERIENCE IN THE PREPARATION OF MONTHLY ACCOUNTING REPORTS, PAYROLLS, COST ALLOCATIONS, AND GENERAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES.

PLEASE APPLY TO MR. G. DASH, PROJECT MANAGER, DE LEUW, CATHIER INTERNATIONAL
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Television

CHANNEL 3 & 6 :

6.00 Quran
 6.10 Walt Disney
 7.00 Lucy show
 8.00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 3 :

7.30 Sports programme
 8.30 Arabic series

9.15 Television magazine

CHANNEL 6 :

7.30 News in Hebrew
 7.45 Varieties
 8.30 Inspector Briggs
 9.00 Shadow of the tower
 10.00 News in English
 10.15 Kojac (on both channels)

Amman Airport

DEPARTURES :

6.50 Aqaba
 7.20 Beirut
 8.45 Beirut (M.E.A.)
 10.35 Athens, Amsterdam (K.L.M.)
 10.45 Bucharest (Taroom)
 11.00 Cairo
 12.00 London
 18.30 Cairo (E.A.)
 18.40 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat
 19.00 Kuwait, Dhahran
 19.30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
 19.30 Baghdad (I.A.)

ARRIVALS :

8.20 Muscat, Doha
 8.30 Aqaba
 9.15 Jeddah
 9.30 Bucharest (Taroom)
 9.50 Beirut
 17.00 Cairo
 17.20 Muscat, Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (G.A.)
 17.30 Cairo (E.A.)
 17.30 Casablanca, Madrid, Athens
 17.35 Amsterdam, Brussels
 18.30 Beirut (M.E.A.)
 18.45 Baghdad (I.A.)

Radio

[ON 856 KHZ]

7.00 Breakfast show.
 7.30 News Bulletin
 7.45 Morning melodies
 8.00 Sign off
 12.00 Pop session (part I)
 13.00 News Summary
 13.03 Pop session (part II)
 14.00 News Bulletin
 14.10 Radio magazine
 14.30 Melody times
 15.00 Classical Music
 15.30 Light Instrumentals
 16.00 Old Favourites
 16.30 Easy Listening
 17.00 Studio one
 18.00 News Summary
 18.05 Listener's choice
 18.30 Science report
 19.00 News Bulletin
 19.10 News reports
 19.30 Sign off.

Market Price

Apples (Golden) 120—170
 Apples (Starken) 120—180
 Apples (Dobule Red) 200—250
 Bananas 120—190
 Bell Pepper 200—300
 Beets 35—55
 Cabbage 40—85
 Cauliflower (Local Large) each 400
 Cauliflower (Local, Medium) each 280
 Cauliflower (Local, Small) each 180
 Carrots (Yellow) 40—70
 Carrots (Black) 60—80
 Chestnuts 310—350
 Cucumbers (Large) 120—160
 Cucumbers (Small) 200—270
 Grapefruit 40—65
 Garlic 50—70
 Lettuce (Large) 60—80
 Lettuce (Small) 50
 Hot pepper 350—500
 Horse Beans 110—170
 Marrow (Small) 180—220
 Marrow (Large) 120—150
 Oranges (French) 50—100
 Oranges (Local) 45—90
 Oranges (Naval) 60—110
 Onions 180—230
 Potatoes (Egyptian) 80—110
 Potatoes (Local) 80—100
 Peas 170—210
 Spinach 50—80
 String Beans 200—260
 Tangerines 45—90
 Tomatoes 65—85

Tonight's Emergencies

DOCTORS :
 Dr Zakaria Shannak (37929)
 Dr. Ali Abdul Hafez (51919)
 PHARMACIES :
 NIHAD (30844)
 Jabal Amman (25404)
 Adnan (39652)
 TAXIS :
 Jerusalem (36955)
 Faisal (21051)
 Mahd (22038)

Jordan, Austria to sign economic agreement

AMMAN, March 9 (JNA). — double the volume of Jordan and Austria will sign an economic and technical cooperation agreement in the second half of the current year, sources said here.

Austria will extend to Jordan technical assistance to help execute the 5-Year Development Plan and related projects. Austria, sources added, will

A Jordanian delegation, headed by Muashir, Minister of Commerce, will visit Austria according to an official invitation. It is now underway to prepare the visit.

Austria, announced by Bruno Kreisky, will consolidate its relations with the developing countries and is prepared to extend the assistance to the Jordanian government.

N. Dakota Governor visits Amman

AMMAN. — The governor of North Dakota, accompanied by his wife and an official delegation, will arrive here on March 16 for a weeklong visit at the invitation of the government. He will meet, during his stay, with His Majesty King Hussein, Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Zeid Rifai. The delegation includes the Attorney General of the State of North Dakota, its Secretary of Agriculture and representatives from the commercial, banking, scientific, cultural and information sectors in the state.

Jordan to attend AEUC meeting in Cairo

AMMAN. — Jordan will participate in the 6-day meeting of the Technical Committee of the Arab League Agricultural Coordination Council in Cairo, March 26.

The subjects to be discussed in the meetings, said Ali Hussein, Director of the Technical Bureau of Agriculture and representative to the Arab League, will include coordination efforts between Arab countries in the agricultural sector, setting up a joint Arab forum for dates and by-products, their marketing and the wool situation in the world and its economic impact.

The conferees, he said, will review the means to develop animal wealth and also study reclamation projects.

Mayor of Teheran visits Amman

AMMAN. — An Iranian municipal delegation headed by the Mayor of Teheran Ghoulam Rida will arrive here on March 22 for a three-day visit at the invitation of the Municipality of Amman.

The delegation will hold talks with the Mayor of Amman Mohammed Touqan and municipality officials on consolidating cooperation between the two capitals.

This visit is in reply to Mr. Touqan's visit to Teheran two months ago.

What's Going

U.S.I.S. 7.00 p.m. :
 Film : Alister Cool West."

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Agreed in S. Lebanon unstable situation

Beirut, March 9. — Nonetheless the deserters have created a dangerously unstable situation in what is a strategically sensitive area on the right flank of Syrian positions in the Golan Heights.

The mutiny certainly caused consternation in Beirut and the Lebanese cabinet met in emergency session with military chiefs.

So far no move has been made by the army to retake the position. The atmosphere here today was notably relaxed, although Lieutenant Idlibi said some of his troops were on the alert.

He was scornful of the army's ability to reoccupy the post.

"They will not move against us militarily. I myself am going to stay here until Lieutenant Khatib gives me new orders or until I die," he said.

"We also have many friends around here," he added vaguely.

The problem of army deserters in Lebanon has long assumed broader implications than simply those of army discipline.

The cause of Lieutenant Khatib and his supporters, who charge that the army is biased towards the right-wing Phalangists and ex-President Camille Chamoun's National Liberal militia, has been taken up by several leftwing political leaders.

Conflicts are nothing new to Armon, which is overlooked by the crusader castle of Beaufort.

But Lieutenant Idlibi and his friends have more pressing things on their minds than historical ironies.

S. Arabia, Taiwan start economic talks

TAIPEI, March 8, (R). — Saudi Arabian and Taiwan government officials today started a five-day economic and technical cooperation conference on plans for closer economic ties between the two countries.

In an opening speech, Taiwan's Deputy Economic Minister, Mr Chang Kwang-Shih, who is heading his country's delegation, predicted Taiwan would soon import \$ 250 million worth of crude oil from Saudi Arabia a year while it would export to the Islamic kingdom goods worth 200 million.



OUT COLD. — Eight Israeli citizens are on trial in a Frankfurt court on charges of running an international drug smuggling ring. Photo here shows Simon Rimon, one of the accused, being taken to court on a stretcher Tuesday after being found unconscious in his prison cell in the morning. The reason for his state was not revealed by the court. (AP wirephoto).

"Time out" for masses' education in China

PEKING, March 9, (AFP). — Today the party newspaper the People's Daily even published a special commentary on the "revisionist-opportunist" saying attributed to Mr Teng: "What does it matter if a cat is white or black as long as it catches mice."

In political terms, the commentator explained, the "cat theory" came down to saying, "What does it matter if one applies Marxism or revisionism, socialism or imperialism, as long as production is pushed forward."

The writer revealed that the application of this "counter-revolutionary" policy inspired by Mr Teng and his "acolytes" had caused production "in certain places to develop slowly" over the past year.

If Mr Teng was permitted to apply his "absurd cats theory," the article went on, then management power in the various enterprises would be removed from "Marxist hands and those of the labouring masses," the spirit of man would become "corrupted" and capitalism would be "restored."

But how to stop Mr Teng—who is senior vice-premier, vice chairman of the party and army chief of staff? Unless Mr Teng were to repent at the eleventh hour, the commentator seemed to envisage only his re-

Ford, U.S. State Department react to excessive Israeli pressures

WASHINGTON, March 9, (AFP). — Severe Israeli pressure on the U.S. government not to sell arms to Egypt may have been taken too far, State Department officials said here yesterday.

Teeth were set on edge in the department by Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz's denunciation yesterday of the proposed arms sales as "a dangerous decision which could lead to war."

Although no official comment was forthcoming, officials said off the record that in making his accusation, Mr Dinitz had come close to interfering in American internal affairs.

The Israeli Ambassador had also told a Jewish women's conference that "one cannot buy friends with arms."

A State Department official confirmed yesterday that the U.S. was studying plans to sell Egypt F 5 jet fighters and anti-tank missiles, after delivery of six C 130 Hercules military transport planes and other non-offensive items including transport helicopters, mine-detectors and communications equipment.

The spokesman stressed that the U.S. did not intend to become a major arms supplier to Egypt, and observers said sales

of offensive arms, if approved by Congress, were not expected before the November presidential elections.

Earlier Monday, President Gerald Ford had said in a radio interview in Florida, where he is campaigning in the state primary election, that selling the six transport planes was "a question of trying to see that Israel and its Arab neighbours had a responsible balance."

He declared: "That in my opinion is a way for peace to be maintained there as we negotiate for a broader and further step."

Kreisky to lead socialist M.E. fact finding mission

ABU DHABI, March 9 (R). — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky is expected to visit the United Arab Emirates later this month, Austrian Foreign Minister Erich Bielka said here. The visit, starting on March 18 or 19, would be part of a fact-finding tour of the Middle East by the Socialist International, Dr. Bielka said.

The countries he is due to visit at the head of the group of West German, French, Italian and Swedish socialists include Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq and Kuwait.

In 1974, Dr. Kreisky led a similar delegation to Egypt, Syria and Israel and a second one in last year to Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya.

1.5m year old skull found in N. Kenya

NAIROBI, March 8 (R). — A skull a million and a half years old has been found in northern Kenya similar to Peking Man fossils found in China, the Acting Director of the Kenya National Museum said today.

Hes said discovery of the complete skull had given scientists final proof that in Africa Homo Erectus, the family to which both the present skull and Peking Man belong, lived alongside the Australopithecus species.

Australopithecus was a related species of Homo Erectus, but unlike him is not a direct ancestor of man.

Mr. Abuje said that it was likely Homo Erectus migrated to Europe, Asia and the Far East from Kenya. He said the skull would be kept at the Kenya National Museum.

But Mohammed Medhi, Secretary-General of the 50,000-member Action Committee on American-Arab relations, charged that arms sales to Egypt would be used as a pretext for giving Israel more weapons during the election year.

In Jerusalem, government sources said Israel's main aim was to prevent the sales altogether, but if this could not be achieved, the government hoped the U.S. would press Egypt to be more flexible over ending its 18-year-old state of belligerence against Israel.

Israeli leaders were convinced that the United States could obtain political concessions from Egypt in exchange for arms, as it had done from Israel over the years, the sources added.

Meanwhile, as the state department was watching the current international war of words, it was also starting a probe into who leaked sensitive texts of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's private words to Middle East heads of state over the past three years.

On Sunday, Journalist Edward Sheehan printed an article in the specialist magazine Foreign Policy, revealing that Mr Kissinger had been exasperated by what he regarded as excessive Israeli intransigence towards its Arab neighbours and that Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford had told Arab leaders that they would like to see Israel withdraw to its 1967 frontiers.

The veracity of the article, peppered with precise quotes from texts of Mr Kissinger's conversations during his protracted series of Middle East diplomatic "shuttles", was neither confirmed nor denied by the State Department.

But it has started an internal inquiry to find out whether department officials leaked the texts to Mr. Sheehan and spokesman Robert Funseth said today that such leaks would have been "unauthorized and a serious error of judgement."

He said that several department officials, including Mr Kissinger, had briefed Mr Sheehan on a no-attributable basis while he was preparing the article, but pointed out that the information could have come from Arab or Israeli officials, with whom Mr Sheehan had also conducted long interviews.

ies : K.'s For Sale

March 9 (AFP).

of State Henry Kissinger act towards the southern Africa restraint which commended to Fidel Castro, Times wrote to-

disastrous in United States government help African paper

Cuban interven- less two white would command sympathy not non-white world bloc."

heavy risks for credibility in ma- eats of retali- e Castro regime in which Wa- city to organise eration is vir- paper warned. rise merely in- vation."



CAMPAIGN START. — President Gerald Ford is shown as he began his bid for the 1976 Presidential nomination of the Republican Party recently as he and Mrs. Ford campaigned in New Hampshire.

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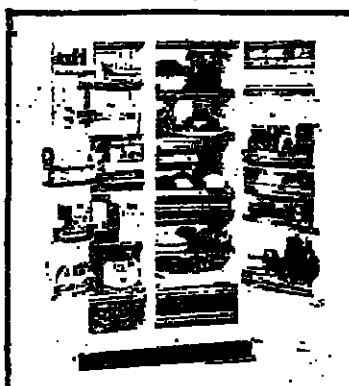
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Inflation presses L. America to devalue currencies

WASHINGTON, Mar. 9, (AFP). — Inflationary pressures in Latin American economies should fall off in 1976, but the change will not prevent new devaluations of a number of currencies in the region, the First National Bank of Chicago reported today.

The Bank said that while prospects for long-term economic development were good for the majority of Latin American nations, they were poor for Argentina and Chile.

The Bank said many Latin American governments appeared to have decided on a firmer anti-inflationary stance, even if it checks economic growth for a time. But it added that a lower inflation rate would not necessarily boost the region's competitive position on world markets.

The result is that Colombia, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile will continue their policy of small but frequent devaluations. And pressures for devaluation of other currencies, such as the Peruvian sol, will increase.

In calling Latin America's long-term growth potential "excellent," the Bank noted that it varied widely from one country to another. It said oil-exporting countries would be in

an especially favourable position, as will be the nations (such as Bolivia) that have a good growth rate and high potential in the raw materials sector.

The report said that the biggest economies, those of Mexico and Brazil, had a big enough internal market and sufficiently diversified exports for strong economic recovery once short-term problems are resolved. But it added that Chile and above all Argentina would continue to have difficulties in the future.

Brazil today devalued the cruzeiro by 1.92 percent against the U.S. dollar, effective today, it was announced here.

The new rates are 9.55 cruzeiros to the dollar (buying) and 9.60 (selling). The former rates were 9.37 and 9.24 respectively. The devaluation is the third of the year. It brings the total drop in the value of the Brazilian currency against the dollar to 5.9 per cent so far this year.

\$35m Saudi loan to South Korea

SEOUL, March 9 (AFP). — Saudi Arabia will provide South Korea with its first public loan of \$35 million under an agreement concluded here yesterday, the Saudi Arabian embassy here announced.

The loan, due from the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), will be used in port expansion projects at Pusan and Mukho.

It is repayable over 18 years, including a three-year grace period.

Mahsoud Jalal, Vice-Chairman of SFD, who was on a four-day visit here from Saturday, and South Korean economic Planning Minister Nam Duck Woo signed the agreement.

The embassy also announced that the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency was processing another \$35-million loan to South Korea to help to finance construction of new highways stretching 800 kilometres (500 miles).

Anglo-Icelandic fisheries dispute to be negotiated

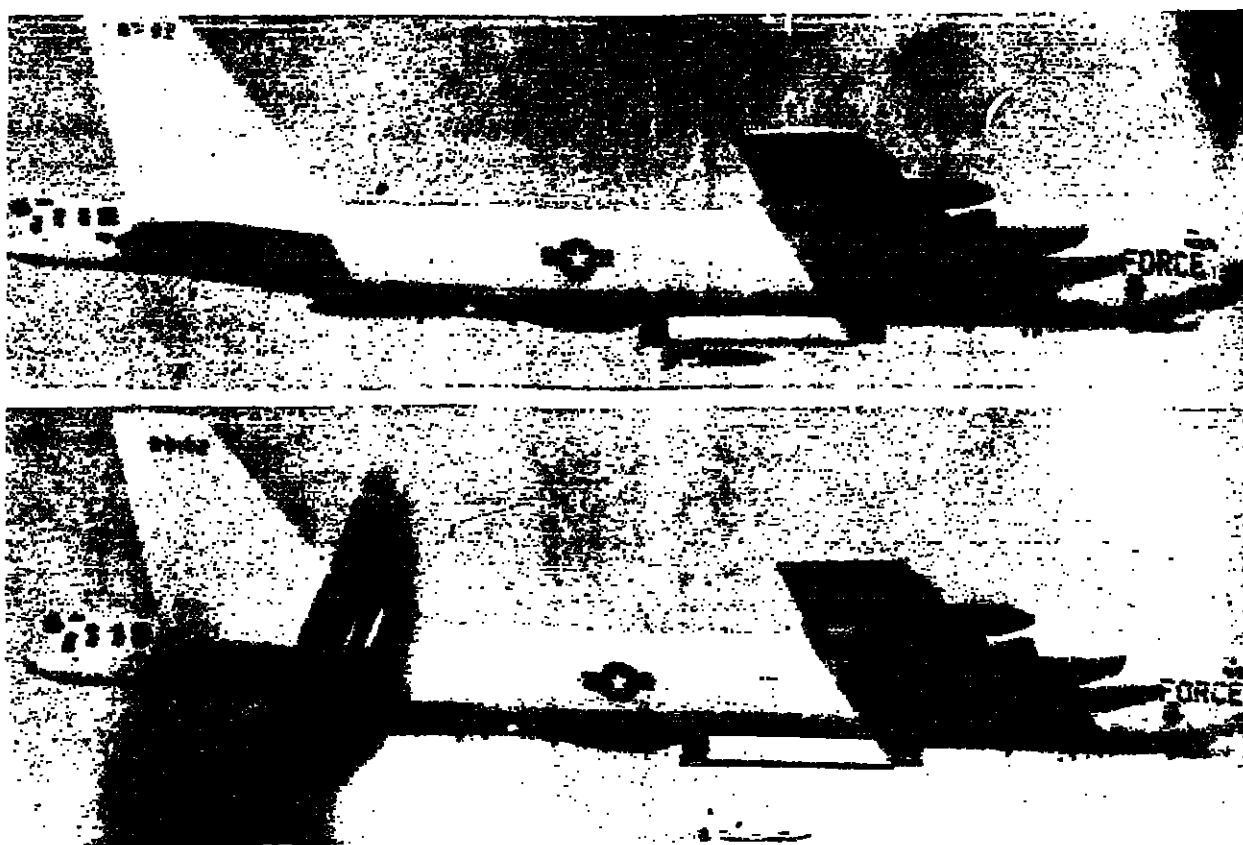
LONDON, Mar. 9, (R). — Britain is determined to maintain the share of the total catch it takes at present. British officials estimated that this annually amounted to about 900,000 tons.

Turning to the Anglo-Icelandic fisheries dispute, Mr Hattersley said: "Our only wish is for a negotiated settlement in which the interests of both countries are served. Until such a settlement is obtained we will continue to protect the rights of the British fishing industry."

In Oslo—with general elections coming up in September next year and the ruling Labour Party anxious to capture lost seats in the fisheries districts of North Norway, Prime Minister Odvar Nordli's government is under strong pressure to extend the 12 mile fishing limit to 200 miles in the course of this year.

This could increase the danger of Norway sailing into a row with Britain and other members of the European community. The official policy is still that of seeking to solve the problems resulting from setting up a 200-mile limit on the basis of negotiations and not confrontation with the countries affected.

The general trend in international law is seen here to be in favour of a 200-mile exclusive economic zone, which would also include a fisheries limit, and this would strengthen Norway's position at the negotiating table.



TEST FIRE. — These photos show a test firing of the American air launched Cruise missile (ALCM) over New Mexico on March 5. The U.S. Air Force prototype missile is shown as it is launched from a B-52 Stratofortress, above, and bottom photo shows the missile as it sets off on its 11-minute journey. The launching took place at an altitude of 10,000 feet.

China's dealings with gold estimated

NEW YORK, Mar. 9, (AFP). — The Chinese are masters in the art of escaping detection when they deal in gold, but they know how to play the market as well as others and have a good knowledge of supply and demand.

The tribute to China's acumen came from market experts here, who note that China's gold sales are in fact quite small, even though it is mentioned frequently when sales take place in London and Zurich.

Dealers said that a few weeks ago when gold rates were falling, there were rumours that China sold 20 tons of gold.

The State Department was familiar with these rumours but discounted them. One economist, Charles Stahl of Green's Commodity Market Comments, believes that China never sells more than about one ton in single day.

Not counting American gold, the volume of bullion changing hands per day is between five and 10 tons. Consequently, any reports of China selling more than one ton should be regarded with deep suspicion, Mr Stahl suggested.

Another expert, Fernando David of Citibank, has said that China's output and reserves are still too low for China to be a major seller.

Annual Chinese output is estimated by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to be 1.6 tons (50,000 troy ounces) and reserves were probably around 466 tons in mid-1975, according to a report by J. Aron.

World Bank to aid water schemes in Bangladesh

DACCA, Mar. 9, (AFP). — Presidential Adviser for Flood Control and Water Resources B. M. Abbas, who returned home from Washington on Sunday, told newsmen at Dacca airport that the World Bank had agreed to consider aiding Bangladesh with water development projects.

During his stay in Washington, Mr Abbas had useful talks with World Bank President Robert McNamara on developing Bangladesh's water resources.

Denying what he called Indian propaganda in the world press that Bangladesh had refused

India increases its exports of tobacco

NEW DELHI, March 9 (AFP). — In Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union increased its share of Indian tobacco from 9.7 million kilos, valued at about \$16 million in July-December 1974 to 13 million kilos, valued at about \$24 million, in the same period in 1975.

Exports to the Middle East also increased marginally, both in quantity and value, during the period.

During the period, Japan imported 2.2 million kilos, valued at about \$5 million against only 20,000 kilos valued at 2,600 dollars.

African countries accounted for 1.73 million kilos, valued at \$1.5 million, against 2 million kilos, valued at over \$1 million.

Egypt to sign trade deal with USSR

CAIRO, March 9 (AFP). — Egyptian Trade Minister Zakaria Tewfik said here yesterday he has postponed a visit to the Soviet Union due to start on March 21, but will still go at a later date.

He had decided on postponement after being told that his Soviet counterpart would not be in Moscow on March 21, an authoritative source added.

According to the influential Cairo Daily Al Ahram last Tuesday, he is due to sign a trade agreement with the Soviet Union for the period up to 1980.

Lockheed scandal continues to occupy Japan parliament

TOKYO, Mar. 9, (R). — Opposition parties today continued their boycott of the Japanese Diet (parliament), including consideration of urgent anti-recession measures in the budget, until the government agreed to full disclosure of all information in the Lockheed payoff scandal.

The parties said American conditions about the release of

A.P.C.A.C. urges better trade ties with Indochina

HONG-KONG, March 9 (AFP). — The Asia-Pacific Council of the American Chambers of Commerce (A.P.C.A.C.) has urged better trade ties between the United States and Indochina.

In a statement issued here after a three-day conference, A.P.C.A.C. called on the "U.S. government and the governments of the Indochina states to assure a smooth and rapid development of relations on a reciprocal basis."

Welcoming limited progress already achieved towards easing tension in the region, A.P.C.A.C. emphasised however its "belief that more can be achieved in the immediate future towards normalising economic and commercial relations."

A.P.C.A.C. urged the U.S. government to lift restrictions on U.S. citizens travelling to Indochina so that American businessmen would be placed on an equal footing with other nationalities in developing trade opportunities.

information was a rejection of resolutions both houses of the Diet. These called for closure of information multi-million payoff Lockheed Aircraft to further the sale of here.

Last Friday, the Under-Secretary of Robert Ingersoll, said would turn over position only if all kept secret until hearings were actually held.

Hearings in the House Budget Committee have so far failed to clearly Japanese involvement. High government officials are alleged to have Lockheed bribes.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Ide said yesterday would be done about given by Mr Ingersoll. In Washington, a former Lockheed Company Vice-President asked to give evidence to a Senate subcommittee national corporation ported here today.

Mr Hodgson, 61, Lockheed Vice-President industrial relations in suspected, however any part in the \$1 million in bribes it has reportedly paid seas.

The U.S. ambassador from 1970 to 1973 Secretary will merge evidence on Lockheed sales structure ports said.



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LONDON MARKET REPORT

Gilts rallied firmly on the stock exchange Tuesday in an otherwise still nervous market.

The firm opening on Wall Street brought a later recovery among leading industrials too. However gold mining shares lost a lot of Monday's gains following continental (European) and "Cape" selling.

Rumours of a bid by Minet Holdings for Lloyds's Underwriters's Leslie and Godwin, with Jardine Matheson said to be poised in the wings with an offer, caused a general buying surge among other broking houses.

Properties sagged following the news of the suspension of the Amalgamated Investment share quote.

The Financial Times Industrial Shares Index was down 0.1 at 411.4 after being over a point lower and a point higher. Oils were mixed, with British Petroleum a little easier, and Shell a penny or two higher: tobaccos had Dunhill down.

Among other mining issues, De Beers suffered along with golds, coppers too were down, but platinum held steady. Pancontinental dipped in Australians. Plantations were holding very steady, with Consolidated Plantations progressing. Hong-kong Shanghai was a firm feature in an otherwise quiet banking section. On the Japanese list Honda moved up.

Irano-British shipping comp to be set up

LONDON, March 9 — British Petroleum is three very large crude oil tankers of 215,000 to 225,000 tons each to Iran for announced Monday.

This sale is part of a deal signed in Tehran day under which BP Iranian National Oil will associate to found a no-British Company with shares.

BP will help to train shipping and admin staff.

On tour with the puppets of India

Janet Berkok Shami is a noted puppeteer who has performed in the United States, Europe and throughout the Middle East. She recently made a tour of Jordan, during which she became involved in the study of Indian cultural and artistic life. The following is a report by Mrs. Shami on one aspect of her work in India.



than marionette which has no legs and is manipulated by three strings.

ground stretched far behind these bright coloured wooden figures....

It happened everytime I set my eyes on them, whether they were haphazardly placed in the darkness, and crowded corner of a souvenir shop in Jaipur, carefully fitted into a special niche at the rest-

aurant wall of Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel in Udaipur or hung motionless from the hands of their manipulators.

Puppets are important in India. I sensed this in Delhi when I visited the Theatre Crafts Workshop and met the director, Mr Indar Ragdan.

I got a better clue in Bangalore when three electronic engineers, who called themselves "Mysore Puppetiers," kindly performed a marionette show for me, and finally the knowledge banged on me when I visited Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandal in Udaipur.

Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandal institute was founded in 1952 by Mr Shri D. L. Samar, who is an artist, scholar, educator and a puppeteer. His institute won the first prize at the 3rd festivals.



Mr. Shyam Kumar is manipulating the sheikh and Mr. Ram Chenebra has seated a Rajasthani lady between the sheikh and the belly dancer.

It maintains a representative team of traditional dancers, dramatists musicians and puppeteers who do experimental and educational work.

It also runs training classes in educational and general puppetry, and has published several books on the various aspects of folk arts.

I saw various kinds of puppets, dolls, terra-cotta and papier-mache images, pad paintings and tribal masks done at its workshops. I also visited its museum which exhibits different folk musical instruments, tribal and cultural crafts and folk costumes, as well as dolls and puppets.

Mr J. B. Bhati, director of the museum, walked with me from one exhibited item to the other, answering each of my questions with endless patience.

Here, like in many institutions and other places I have visited in India, I was once again overwhelmed by the modest manner of the man who is an expert in his field.

Mr Samar joined us at the end of our tour of the museum, and watched us perform a mini-show at the institute's theatre.

Mr J. B. Bhati examined my belly dancer and the Arab sheikh carefully after the show. He touched their faces and moved their legs and arms backwards and forwards from their joints.

"Very nice," he said thoughtfully, "very nice!"

I have received praise before having performed for so many years in Jordan and abroad, but none of the praise had touched me as much as that simple remark. Maybe because he spent more time looking at my puppets then anyone else has done before.



Mr. Shri D. L. Samar, the founding director of Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandal on the author's left and Mr. J.B. Bhati on the right.



Back stage at a show.

Tonight's TV Features

THE SHADOW OF THE TOWER



DO THE SHEEP SIN?

Henry VII arms an army to fight Warbeck in Scotland. To pay for the war, taxes are levied. The Cornish people object and they march to London to protest. It turns into a rebellion.

KOJAC

A GRAVE TOO SOON

Gangster's wife and her husband's right hand man kill a policeman who discovered their plot to murder her husband. Kojac helped by daughter of gangster disrupts their plan.

TOP SECRET LIFE OF INSPECTOR BRIGGS

THE CONTACT

Briggs and his men trail a suspected KGB spy and finally arrest him at Waterloo station.

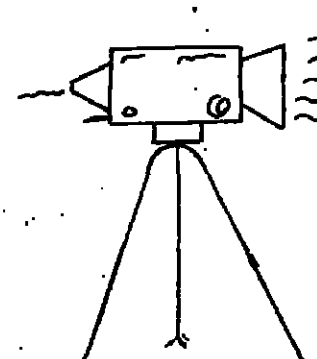
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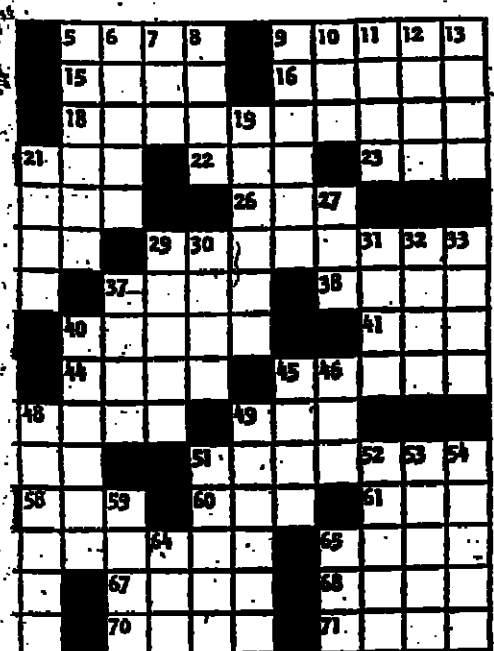
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Work going on in the puppet workshop.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Col. Munro's daughter
- 5 Buck
- 9 Green food
- 14 Warning
- 15 Linden
- 16 Soap plant
- 17 Consort of Siva
- 18 Total destruction
- 20 One's years
- 21 Palm Springs
- 22 Expression of disgust
- 23 Fit, as words to music
- 24 Sub-rulers
- 26 Primary color
- 28 She tasted the 34 Across
- 29 Embryonic
- 34 Tree fruit
- 37 Farm building
- 38 Warm-sea grouper
- 39 Teachers' group: Abbr.
- 40 Relation by marriage
- 41 Feel sick
- 42 Goddess of discord
- 44 French city
- 45 Calyx part
- 47 Types of 34 Across
- 49 Couldge
- 50 Spring month: Abbr.
- 51 National bishop
- 55 — Jinn
- 58 Herb
- 60 Black gold
- 61 Skip stones on water
- 62 British attorneys
- 65 Pond
- 66 Rise
- 67 To the sheltered side
- 68 Feed the kitty
- 69 McQueen
- 70 Disapproving sound
- 71 Shield projection

- 6 The Lone Star State
- 7 River island
- 8 Smooth-talking
- 9 American Indian: V.P.
- 10 Sum: Abbr.
- 11 Laws: Fr.
- 12 Agalloch
- 13 Tooth: Fr.
- 19 Straight and —
- 21 Rescue
- 25 Electrical measure
- 27 Reduce light
- 29 Patron saint of Edinburgh
- 30 Verve
- 31 Low tide
- 32 Songster's specialty
- 33 Dewdle
- 34 Over again
- 35 Fairy
- 36 Anguish
- 37 Break suddenly
- 40 Daedalus' son
- 43 Body of water
- 45 Go-boating

- 46 Dutch — disease
- 48 Eff
- 49 Nixon wrote of sex
- 51 Skin openings
- 52 Gland: Comb. form
- 53 Little pies
- 54 Swords
- 55 Wedding bird
- 56 Deprivation
- 57 Fillet: Her.
- 59 Greenland base
- 63 Jewish title
- 64 Wallach



As cause is debated

Sterling steadies after fast depreciation

LONDON, March 9, (AFP). — The pound steadied today after undergoing a three or four per cent mini-devaluation in the last few sessions amid continued debate on how the fall happened.

There seem to be two schools of thought: some say the depreciation since late last week is an "accident", others say it was deliberately brought about.

Whatever the truth the general impression in monetary circles here tonight was that the pound would stay roughly where it is for a few weeks.

Most dealers seem to feel that the drop would have come sooner or later, since Britain still has an inflation rate twice as bad as that of other main industrial countries, and British competitiveness on world markets needs a sterling devaluation.

Instead of being a long drawn out process over a period of several months it has happened rather dramatically in a couple of days or so.

The Treasury and the Bank of England are keeping their

W. Germany should guarantee ME peace

(Continued from page 1)

fat added.

Mr. Arafat criticised last September's Egyptian Sinai disengagement agreement with Israel, but praised Palestinian-Syrian relations. "Syrians are our brothers in destiny and allies in strategy," he said.

Hussein: Jerusalem should be peace city

(Continued from page 1)

Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser to visit Jordan at a date to be agreed upon later.

King Hussein arrives in Tokyo Wednesday for a six-day visit during which he is expected to discuss economic and technical cooperation with Japan in talks with Prime Minister Takeo Miki.

Their first round of talks will be held Thursday.

Japan has helped Jordan build a ground station for satellite communications and improve the Jordanian telecommunications network with a yen loan worth 10 million dollars.

A Japanese firm is now making a survey to help Jordan build an irrigation dam and Jordan may seek financial help for the project, a spokesman at the Japanese Ministry of Inter-

Industrial unrest continues in Spain

(Continued from page 1)

ings in Vitoria, in which four people died.

The population appeared to be following the advice of the opposition parties. The Basque Communist Party, the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, the communist movement and nationalist groups have all called for a halt to demonstrations.

Meetings were being held in many enterprises to discuss the outcome of the strike.

But in Bilbao, several large heavy engineering plants stayed closed as yesterday's protest stoppage was followed by strikes today for more pay.

Zionists fire-bomb Syrian Embassy

(Continued from page 1)

team which had arrived in Paris to pave the way for President Assad's visit was exposed to "Zionist provocations and harassment."

A Zionist group calling itself "the Union of Jewish Warriors" also distributed leaflets attacking Syria.

cards close to their chests, but it looks as if they do not want sterling to fall any lower. A rate of 1.94 dollars is quite low in the last few sessions amid the 2.025 of recent weeks.

The British authorities are believed to have spent between 50 million and 75 million pounds Monday to halt the slide. The Bank of England probably gave a little injection early today, but there is no indication that it wants to drag sterling back up the slope.

The market was "a little less volatile" today, the pound's

4 killed in new Montreal Olympics site accident

MONTREAL, March 9, (R). — Four men working inside a concrete beam being installed at the Olympic stadium here were killed last night when it broke loose from support cables and crashed more than 100 feet (30 metres) to the ground, police said.

Two men died instantly, the third succumbed on the way to hospital and the fourth on the operating table.

The victims had been rivetting the beam to a main column near a tower which is to support the stadium's retractable roof.

It was the second fatal accident in seven months at the stadium. Because of strikes and financial troubles building will not be completed by the time the games open on July 17.

national Trade and Industry said.

Trade between the two countries last year was heavily in favour of Japan. Japanese imports from Jordan, 99 per cent of them phosphate ore, came to 11.3 million dollars.

King Hussein and Queen Alya arrive Wednesday morning to a 21-gun salute at Tokyo's Haneda Airport from their visit to Australia. They will drive to the state guest house in central Tokyo for a formal welcome from Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako. The Jordanian Royal couple will be the guests at a state banquet given by the Emperor and Empress in the moated imperial palace Wednesday evening.

On Thursday the King will attend a lunch given by Japan's most powerful economic grouping — the Federation of Economic Organisations.

The next day he will tour the Nippon electric company's plant at Yokohama. The firm built the satellite ground station in Jordan.

The King and Queen will spend the weekend visiting the historic palace and temples at the old imperial capital of Kyoto, in western Japan.

Nablus students stone Israeli police

(Continued from page 1)

would make daily attempts to reach the area in Jerusalem, the site of the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, two of Islam's most revered places of worship.

An Israeli magistrate ruled recently that there was no law preventing Jews from praying there.

Nablus residents also oppose the officially-sanctioned presence of right-wing Jewish squatters at a nearby military camp, which they see as a further attempt to implant Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territory.

The town councils of the other West Bank towns of Bethlehem, Jenin, Jericho, Tul-karm, Ramallah and Beit Sahur

quotation being more like 1.948 against last night's 1.943.

Meanwhile the French franc was 8.83 to the pound against last night's 8.795 and 4.53 against 4.527 dollars last night. (In Paris it was described by dealers as "still weak" against Western currencies).

In Frankfurt, sterling fell below five marks again, wiping out a modest recovery earlier, and in Zurich sterling was down to 5.0075 Swiss francs by the close.

Rhodesian talks to resume amid hopes of breakthrough

SALISBURY, March 9, (Agencies). — Constitutional talks between Rhodesia's white minority government and African nationalists are expected to resume in Salisbury on Thursday, a nationalist spokesman said today.

The main topic will be new government proposals for the future of the country which, when they were first put two weeks ago, were described by some nationalist quarters as a

First Israel bound oil tanker passes through Suez

TEL-AVIV, March 9, (R). — Israeli officials today confirmed that an oil tanker filled with crude oil for Israel had passed through the Suez Canal for the first time.

Shipping agents in Port Said reported yesterday that the Liberator tanker Gemini had gone through the Canal on its way from Iran to Haifa with 20,000 tons of crude Iranian oil.

Under the Israeli-Egyptian Sinai disengagement agreement all non-Israeli ships heading to or from Israel with non-military materials are allowed to transit the Canal.

Army mutineers control Lebanon town

(Continued from page 1)

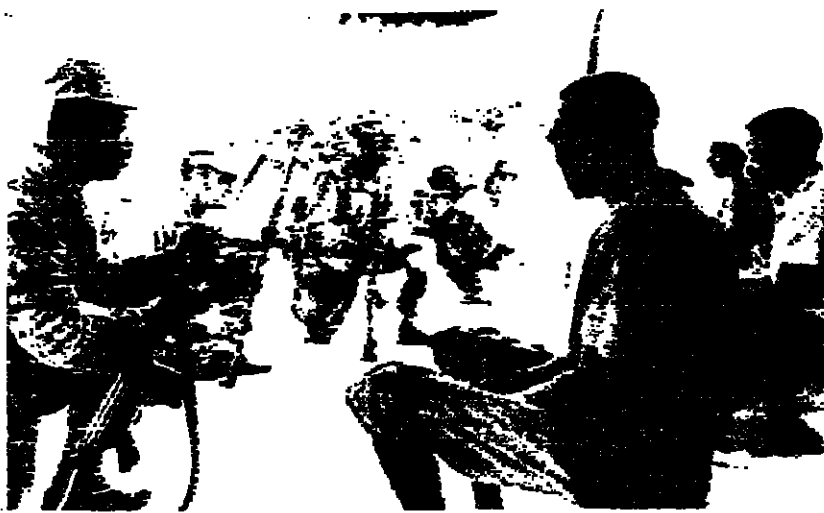
with President Hafez Al-Assad of Syria.

The Shi'i Moslem leader, Imam Moussa Sadr, who also met Mr Khaddam, said he hoped the army crisis could be settled in the next 48 hours.

Parliament meanwhile unanimously adopted a draft law prolonging its own mandate for two years and two months, to overcome the problems of organising a general election in the war's aftermath. The present parliament, elected in May 1972, was due to end on April 30.

Today's move warded off a constitutional crisis which observers believed might have opened the way to partition of the country observers added.

It was also expected to allow more time for constitutional reforms which would change the



BORDER CHECKS. — Black and white Rhodesian security forces are pictured talking to villagers on the Rhodesia-Mozambique border Tuesday, scene of several clashes between the Rhodesians and nationalist African guerrillas. This scene took place in the Mount Darwin region of northeast Rhodesia.

"near breakthrough."

After studying the proposals, supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo, head of the internal faction of the African National Council (ANC), gave him a mandate to pursue the negotiations to their "logical conclusion."

The Rhodesian cabinet today held its usual weekly meeting, the first since Mozambique closed its border last week.

No details of cabinet discussions are released, but the meeting was expected to cover contingency plans for re-routing the 25 to 30 per cent of Rhodesia's exports which were carried by rail across Mozambique to the Indian Ocean.

South Africa is the only other outlet and it has capacity to take the extra load. But if the go-ahead has been given to Rhodesia, it has not been made public.

South Africa does not want to spoil its hopes of detente with Black Africa by propping up Rhodesia.

The situation on the Mozambique border remains fluid.

In related developments a Rhodesian junior cabinet minister said here that Rhodesia's guerrilla war zone has almost doubled in size since the beginning of the year and the country's defence forces have been strengthened by 60 per cent.

Boycotts, clashes continue in Sahara

(Continued from page 1)

tanian forces on Sunday at Bir Moghrem, 1,000 kms north of Noukchott, informed sources said there today.

One Mauritanian soldier was reported killed in the fighting. From Cairo, Arab diplomatic sources said that the chances of the Saharan Liberation Front Polisario gaining membership in the Arab League are very slender.

They pointed out that a request for membership had to be approved by a two-thirds majority of the League, which, despite the presence of the PLO does not normally admit liberation movements.

The sources said the League could not afford to lose Morocco and Mauritania for the sake of letting in Polisario, which is backed by Algeria.

Aramco confirms Floi talks with Saudi offic

PANAMA CITY, Florida, March 9, (Agencies). — Discussions here between Saudi Arabia and U.S. oil executives on the takeover of the giant Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) are expected to end soon, the company announced.

Aramco last night confirmed for the first time that it was holding talks with the Saudi Arabian Government at the Florida resort of Panama City.

A communique published in New York by Aramco which groups Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Standard Oil of California—read:

"Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) confirms that a meeting is currently being held in Florida. This meeting is a continuation of a series of discussions between Aramco ma-

nagement, its shareholders the Saudi Arabian go all of whom are represented the same individuals participated in past meetings covers a number of subjects, including the ownership. It is that this meeting will be concluded shortly."

The talks began at the end of the plush year this northwest Florida id strict security. Guarded with shotguns kept well away from the while helicopters flew ad.

White House spokesman Nessen said in Washington the U.S. government is aiding security for the Saudi oil minister, one of 10 oil ministers kidnapped by guerrillas last December.

Shah, Bhutto review and S. Asia situation

ISLAMABAD, March 9, (R). — The Shah of Iran today held his first formal round of talks with Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on the third day of his five-day official visit to Pakistan.

Official sources said the two leaders carried out a wide-ranging review of bilateral relations during a 2-1/2-hour meeting, but the sources gave no other details.

The Shah and Mr Bhutto are scheduled to hold a second round of talks tomorrow in Lahore.

Informed sources expected the two leaders would discuss Iran's continued economic assistance of Pakistan.

Iran advanced easy term loans totalling \$ 580 million to Pakistan over a three-year pe-

riod from 1974 as well as committing \$ 63 million ventures, industrial and cal projects.

The sources said Shah and Mr Bhutto spend some time discussing stability in South Asia, specifically, Pakistan with neighbouring Afghanistan.

The Shah had in made efforts to reconquer and Afghanistan would be willing to play a role again if the sources added.

The Shah is however moment expected to suggest that the creation for Regional Cooperation and Development (RCD) comprises Iran, Pakistan, Turkey—might be a include Afghanistan

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